Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
NO.34 MAY
US $1.50
CAN $1.65

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

KNUCKLES™ SOLO STORY INSIDE!

SPAZ
HARV

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG IN TO 'BOT OR NOT TO 'BOT!

PART ONE

FFRRRRRZZZZZAAPP!!

I CAN'T LOOK! TELL ME WHEN IT'S OVER!

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SORRY, SONIC! THE DE-*ROBOTICIZATION* PROCESS DIDN'T WORK! UNCLE CHUCK AND MUTTSKI ARE *STILL ROBOTS!*

OH, *MAN!*

ROBOTNIK'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DE-ROBOTICIZE US NOW, NEPHEW...

...BUT AS LONG AS WE STILL CONTROL OUR MINDS, WE'LL JUST BE ROBOTS ON THE *OUTSIDE!*

...BESIDES, NOW I DON'T GET TIRED ANYMORE ...UNLESS YOU COUNT *METAL FATIGUE!*

I'D LIKE TO RUN ONE MORE TEST ON YOU AND MUTTSKI, UNCLE CHUCK!

ANOTHER TEST?! COULDN'T YOU MAKE IT A *MULTIPLE CHOICE,* ROTOR?!

IT'S THE ONLY WAY, SONIC! IF WE KEEP TRYING, IN TIME, WE'LL FIND THE ANSWER...

BUT IN ROBOTROPOLIS, TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR UNCLE CHUCK, SONIC AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS...

SNIVELY!

...GET HERE ON THE DOUBLE! I'M READY TO SHOW YOU MY TOP-SECRET PROJECT!

I'M ON MY WAY, DOCTOR ROBOTNIK! SNIVELY OUT!

HMPF! I'LL FINALLY SEE WHAT HE'S BEEN WORKING ON THE LAST FEW WEEKS... HOPEFULLY IT'S A *CURE* FOR *OVER-INFLATED EGO!*

WHAT IS IT, SIR? ... EEEEP!

FROM NOW ON, SNIVELY, YOU CAN CALL ME GENERAL ROBOTNIK, SUPREME COMMANDER OF THE *GREATEST FIGHTING FORCE* IN HISTORY!

V-V-VERY IMPRESSIVE, SIR... UH... I MEAN GENERAL! BUT WHY?

BECAUSE I'VE DECLARED TOTAL WAR ON SONIC AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS! FOR THAT REASON, I'VE CREATED THE ULTIMATE COMBAT MACHINE...

...THE COMBOT! IMAGINE AN *ENTIRE ARMY* OF INVINCIBLE SOLDIER 'BOTS, ALL WITH A SINGLE PURPOSE... TO GET THAT MISERABLE *HEDGE-RAT* AND HIS FRIENDS!

TOMORROW I WILL LAUNCH AN *ALL-OUT ATTACK* ON THE *GREAT FOREST!* WHEN THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS COME TO THE RESCUE...

... MY ARMY OF COMBOTS WILL *OVERWHELM* THEM BY SHEER FORCE OF NUMBERS! BUT IT MUST BE A *SURPRISE ATTACK*, SNIVELY...

...THAT'S WHY YOU MUST NOT BREATHE A WORD TO *ANYONE* OR ANYTHING...

THAT'S AN ORDER!

YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, GENERAL...

...I'LL BE AS *SILENT* AS THE *GARGOYLES* OUTSIDE THIS BUILDING!

OH NO! THIS IS *TERRIBLE!*

I'VE GOT TO WARN THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS... IF I CAN REMEMBER WHAT ROBOTNIK SAID!

KNOTHOLE VILLAGE, THE GREAT FOREST...

... AND THEN HE SAID THAT HIS ARMY OF COMBOTS WAS *INVISIBLE* AND THAT HE WAS GOING TO *LUNCH* TOMORROW AND THEN WE WERE GOING TO BE ATTACKED BY AN *AIR FORCE* OF *NUMBSKULLS* AND THEN...

CALM DOWN, DULCY! I KNOW IT WAS HARD TO HEAR EVERYTHING ROBOTNIK SAID, BUT I GET THE IDEA!

WE'VE GOT TO *DESTROY* THE ARMY OF COMBOTS WHILE THEY'RE ALL TOGETHER IN *ONE PLACE!*

THAT'S A JOB FOR ME AND MUTTSKI, SALLY! WE KNOW OUR WAY AROUND ROBOTNIK'S HEADQUARTERS BETTER THAN ANYONE!

NO WAY ARE YOU GOING ON THIS MISSION WITHOUT *ME*, UNC!

AGREED! THE THREE OF YOU WILL LEAVE FOR ROBOTROPOLIS IMMEDIATELY! GOOD LUCK!

LET'S GO, NEPHEW...

... AND BE ON YOUR GUARD! WE COULD BE DOING *EXACTLY* WHAT ROBOTNIK **WANTS** US TO DO!

END OF PART ONE

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

IN TO 'BOT OR NOT TO 'BOT! PART TWO

AS GLOOMY NIGHT FALLS ON ROBOTROPOLIS, SONIC, UNCLE CHUCK AND MUTTSKI ARE OUTSIDE ROBOTNIK'S HEADQUARTERS...

JUST GET US IN, UNCLE CHUCK! I'LL DO THE REST!

I KNOW ALL OF ROBOTNIK'S ACCESS CODES, SO GETTING THROUGH SECURITY SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM... STILL, IT'S ODD THAT HE HASN'T CHANGED HIS CODES SINCE I ESCAPED!

BEEP! BOOP- BEEP!

INSIDE...

WHOA! LOOK AT ALL THOSE 'BOTS! WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE FOR A *GIANT BOWLING BALL!*

I'D HATE TO SEE THEM WHEN THEY'RE *ACTIVATED!* LET'S DO OUR JOB AND GET OUT OF HERE, SONIC!

YOU GOT IT, UNC!

SONIC! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE RUNNING!

VROOOM!

...DON'T FORGET YOU'RE CARRYING EXPLOSIVES!

SO UNCLE CHUCK AND MUTTSKI HAVE COME HOME! LET'S *REALIGN* THEIR *ROBOTIC MINDS*...

...NOW!

!!

!!

FRRRRRZZZZAAPP!

LET'S JUICE, UNC! IN A FEW MINUTES, THIS WHOLE ROOM IS GONNA GO KABOOM!

C'MON, UNCLE CHUCK! HEY! WHAT'S UP? YOU LOOK *WEIRD*...

HUH?!!

CLANK!

IN THE NAME OF MY *MASTER*, GENERAL ROBOTNIK, I ORDER YOU TO DEACTIVATE YOUR EXPLOSIVES!

OH, MAN! THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING *AGAIN!*

GRR-ROWF!

BETTER DO WHAT HE SAYS, HEDGERAT, OR YOUR DEAR UNCLE AND YOUR MUTT WILL BE *BLOWN* TO *BITS* ALONG WITH YOU!

NICE UNIFORM, ROBUTTNIK! DID THEY KICK YOU OUT OF THE MARCHING BAND FOR *SWALLOWING* THE *DRUM*?!

SPEAKING OF MARCHING BANDS, TOMORROW WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A *PARADE*...

...AND **YOU'RE** GOING TO **LEAD** IT!

??

?!

DAWN, THE FOLLOWING DAY, AT THE EDGE OF THE GREAT FOREST...

BUNNIE! ANTOINE! TAILS! YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO REPORT BACK TO ME HOURS AGO!

WE WAITED OUTSIDE ROBOTROPOLIS, SUGAH! BUT THERE WAS NO EXPLOSION AND NO SIGN OF SONIC, CHUCK AND MUTTSKI!

SOMETHING MUST HAVE GONE WRONG! PERHAPS THEY WERE *CAPTURED!*

I WAS ABOUT TO GO LOOK FOR ZEM, PRINCESS, BUT I HEARD ZE *LOUD, MYSTERIOUS NOISE!*

THAT WAS YOUR KNEES KNOCKING, ANTOINE!

WAIT! WHAT'S THAT IN THE DISTANCE?

?

?!

OH NO! *ROBOTNIK'S ARMY IS ON THE MARCH ...AND THEY'VE TAKEN SONIC* ***PRISONER!***

I HOPE FOR YOUR SAKE YOUR FRIENDS DON'T **ATTACK** US, HEDGEHOG!

UNCLE CHUCK AND MUTTSKI ARE MARCHING WITH THE 'BOTS! ROBOTNIK MUST HAVE REALIGNED THEIR MINDS!

WE'LL NEVER STOP ALL THOSE 'BOTS!

WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GATHER UP ALL FREE MOBIANS AND TAKE THEM TO OUR *UNDERGROUND SHELTERS*...

...AND SAY GOODBYE TO OUR HOME IN KNOTHOLE VILLAGE!

SOON...

THIS WAY, EVERYONE! HURRY!

THAT'S FAR ENOUGH, PRINCESS!

?!

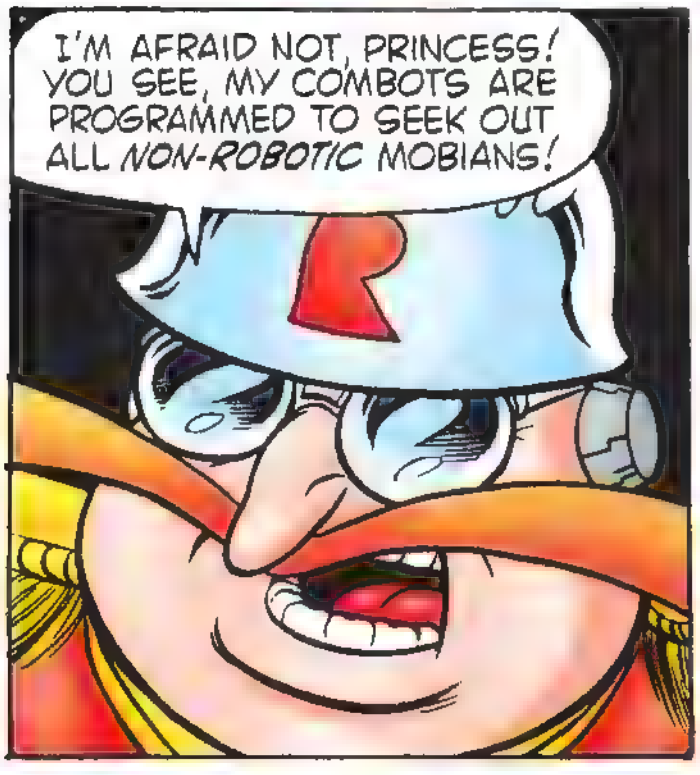
UNCLE CHUCK WAS KIND ENOUGH TO FLY ME TO THE ENTRANCE TO YOUR SHELTER! CONGRATULATIONS... YOU ARE MY SECOND **PRISONER** OF **WAR**!!

!!

END OF PART TWO

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™ IN TO 'BOT OR NOT TO 'BOT!

PART 3



OH, WOULDN'T I? COMBOTS! I, YOUR IMPERIAL LEADER, COMMAND YOU TO REMOVE ALL MOBIANS FROM THE GREAT FOREST... EVEN IF YOU HAVE TO *DESTROY* IT!

WHEN THEY'RE DONE MARCHING THROUGH YOUR GREAT FOREST, YOU'LL HAVE TO CHANGE ITS NAME TO THE **LATE** FOREST! HAWHAW!

UH... PERHAPS NOT, DOCTOR ...ER, SIR... UH, I MEAN GENERAL!

BE QUIET, SNIVELY! CAN'T YOU SEE I'M... I'M... I'M...

NO! YOU'RE MARCHING IN THE **WRONG** DIRECTION! THE FOREST IS *THIS* WAY!

STOMP! STOMP! STOMP! STOMP! STOMP!

STOP! YOU'RE HEADING TOWARDS A CLIFF! THE *OCEAN* IS DOWN THERE! STOP! THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING TO ME *AGAIN!**

* *ROBOTNIK'S DEMOLITION TRACTORS WERE "CLIFFED" IN SONIC #28 - ED*

AIEEEEE! MY BEAUTIFUL COMBOTS!!

ZZAP!

ZZAP!

I... I MUSTN'T PANIC! AFTER ALL, SONIC IS STILL MY PRISONER! WITHOUT HIM, THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS ARE *FINISHED!*

SNIVELY! ROBOTICIZE THE HEDGEHOG IMMEDIATELY! THAT'S AN *ORDER!*

I CAN'T DO THAT, GENERAL!

IDIOT! WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU CAN'T DO THAT?! *WHY NOT?!*

HAVE A LOOK, SIR!

WHAT?!! HOW DID YOU GET FREE?

I WAS BORN FREE, RO-BUTT-NIK!

AND NOW I'M FREE TO ROBOTICIZE YOU!

WAIT! YOU DON'T HAVE TO MAKE ME A ROBOT!

I'M ALREADY COLD-HEARTED!

COURAGE

!!

HEY!

GRRROWF!

NO, MUTTSKI! NO!

GRRRR!

A HOVERCRAFT! NOW I CAN ESCAPE!

LET GO, SNIVELY! THERE'S ONLY ROOM FOR *ONE!* THAT'S AN ORDER!

SORRY, GENERAL, BUT I'VE DECIDED TO BE A *DESERTER!*

VZOOOM!

NICE GOIN', UNCLE CHUCK! YOUR *PLAN* WORKED LIKE A CHARM!

EH? EH? ZE *PLAN*? WHAT IS ZIS"PLAN"?!

AND YOU GAVE A GREAT PERFORMANCE TOO, OLD BOY! FOR A MINUTE THERE, I THOUGHT YOU WERE *STILL* A 'BOT!

BUT HE *IS* ZE 'BOT! I SAW IT WITH MY *OWN TWO FEET!*

OOH! MY HEAD IS CONFUSED!

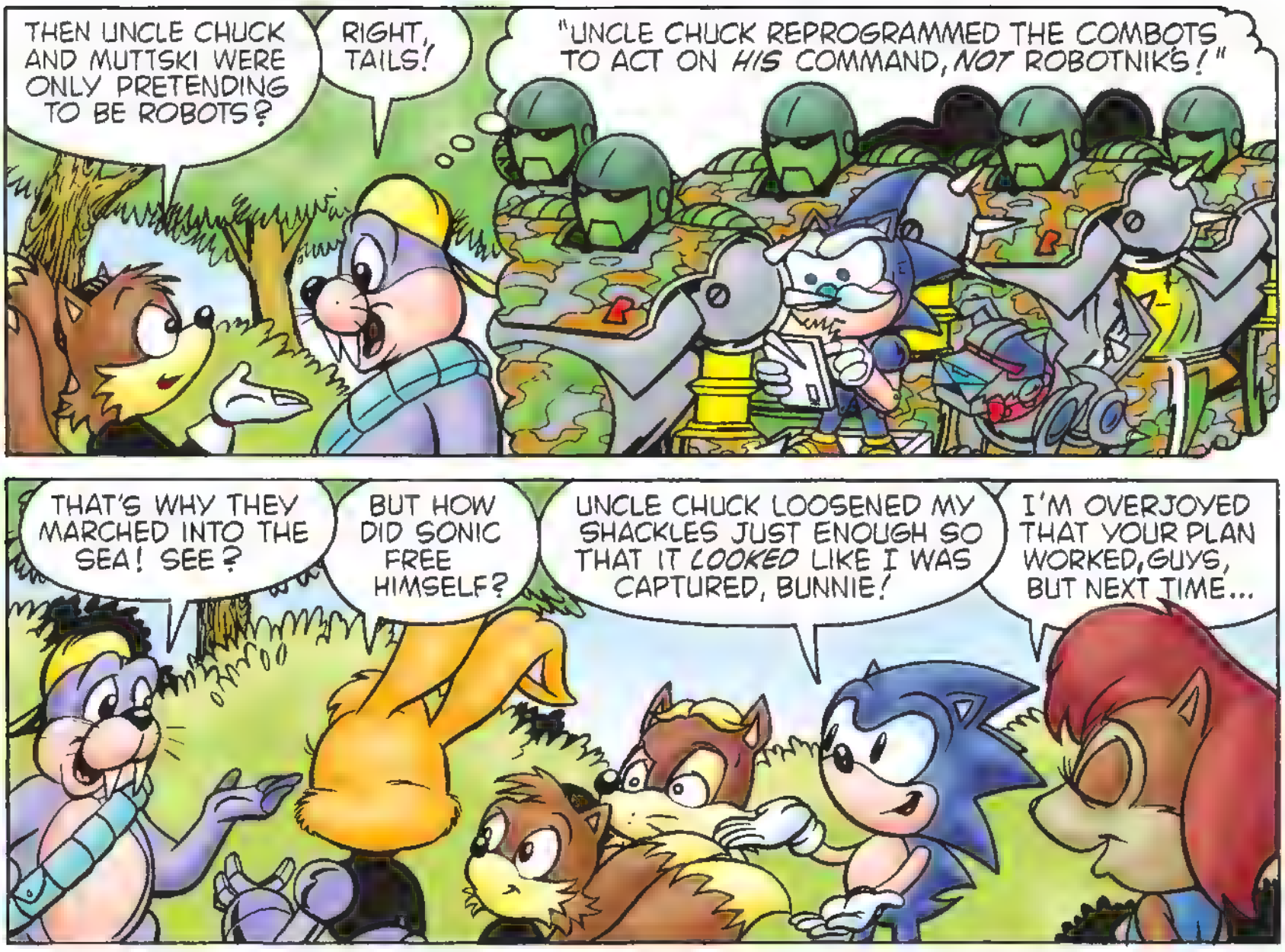
WOOF!

PERHAPS I CAN EXPLAIN, ANTOINE!

THE LAST TIME I TESTED UNCLE CHUCK AND MUTTSKI I INSERTED A *NEURO-OVERRIDER** INTO THEIR *NEURAL-NETWORKS...*

** THE SAME TYPE HE TRIED TO USE ON SALLY IN SONIC #29 - ED*

"IT ALLOWED THEM TO KEEP CONTROL OF THEIR MINDS EVEN WHEN ROBOTNIK TRIED TO REALIGN THEM!"


THEN UNCLE CHUCK AND MUTTSKI WERE ONLY PRETENDING TO BE ROBOTS?
RIGHT, TAILS!
"UNCLE CHUCK REPROGRAMMED THE COMBOTS TO ACT ON HIS COMMAND, NOT ROBOTNIK'S!"
THAT'S WHY THEY MARCHED INTO THE SEA! SEE?
BUT HOW DID SONIC FREE HIMSELF?
UNCLE CHUCK LOOSENED MY SHACKLES JUST ENOUGH SO THAT IT LOOKED LIKE I WAS CAPTURED, BUNNIE!
I'M OVERJOYED THAT YOUR PLAN WORKED, GUYS, BUT NEXT TIME...
WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME ABOUT IT?!
THAT EVENING...
SEEMS LIKE WE KEEP SAYING GOODBYE, UNCLE CHUCK!
IT'S FOR THE BEST, SONIC! ROBOTNIK THINKS OUR MINDS ARE ENSLAVED AGAIN, SO MUTTSKI AND I WILL MAKE PERFECT SPIES!
NOW I'VE GOT TO GO!
BEFORE YOU DO, UNC, CAN YOU DO US A FAVOR?..
...EXPLAIN OUR PLAN TO ANTOINE ONE MORE TIME!
FIRST HE WAS ZE ROBOT, ZEN HE WAS NOT ZE ROBOT BUT HE WAS ZE ROBOT, ZEN...
THE END

SONIC'S FRIENDLY NEMESIS

KNUCKLES™

A SENSE OF HISTORY

PART ONE

TYPICAL.

THAT "ARCHIMEDES" CHARACTER IS PLAYING "HIDE AND SEEK" WITH THE CHAOTIX...

...AND AN EVEN NASTIER SET OF "MIND-GAMES" WITH ME!*

THEY'VE DISAPPEARED...

...AND I'VE NO IDEA WHERE TO FIND THEM!

SCRIPT:
MIKE KANTEROVICH & KEN PENDERS
PENCILS:
KEN PENDERS
INKS:
JON D'AGOSTINO

*SEE "THE HUNT IS ON!" FROM KNUCKLES' CHAOTIX #1 -ED

WHAT WAS IT HE SAID--"WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT? YOUR FRIENDS...

...OR THE THREAT TO THE FLOATING ISLAND?"

GOOD QUESTION.

WISH I HAD A FEW...

EASY...

...ANSWERS?

WHOA!

I'M IN THE *SHADOW* OF *MOUNT FATE!*

DAD TOLD ME THE TALE OF THAT PEAK'S FATEFUL *BIRTHING*...

...AND THE WAY THINGS *USED* TO BE...

...BEFORE THE *GREAT BETRAYAL!*

"HIS STORIES CLAIMED THAT LONG, LONG AGO, *ECHIDNA CIVILIZATION* WAS THE MOST *ADVANCED* ON *MOBIUS!*

"OUR CITY'S GLEAMING *SPIRES* ROSE *HIGH* INTO THE *SKY*...

"...THOUGH THE *ISLAND ITSELF* DID NOT!

ECHIDNAPOLIS

GREAT RIVER OF MOBIUS

RIVER

"WE WERE *'GROUNDERS'* THEN..."

"...BUT OUR *AMBITIONS* TOUCHED THE *STARS THEMSELVES*...

"THAT'S HOW SOME *DISTANT RELATIVES* OF MINE WERE ALERTED TO THE *DANGER* FROM *ON HIGH!*"

TWO MORE DEGREES, AND WE'LL HAVE CHARTED THE ENTIRE *ALPHA QUADRANT!*

ALL THESE YEARS TO LEARN "*SPACE*" IS A WHOLE LOT OF *NOTHING!*

WISH WE'D DISCOVERED SOMETHING *SPECTACULAR!*

GOINK!

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU *WISH* FOR...

...YOU JUST MIGHT *GET* IT!

OR EVEN *WORSE*...

...*IT* MIGHT GET *US!*

"LATER, IN THE *HALL OF LEARNING*, A DIRE *ANNOUNCEMENT* WAS MADE...

HALL of LEARNING

"...ONE WHICH SHOOK *SOCIETY* TO ITS VERY *CORE!*"

CITIZENS! MEMBERS OF THE *SCIENTIFIC ELITE!*

ACCORDING TO OUR *CALCULATIONS*...

...*ECHIDNAPOLIS* IS *DOOMED!*

WITHIN A MONTH-- POSSIBLY ONLY A *WEEK*--

--THIS GREAT *WHITE COMET* WILL COME CRASHING DOWN UPON US!

IT'S THE *END* OF THE *WORLD!*

THE *SKY* IS *FALLING!*

CAN ANYTHING BE *DONE?*

PERHAPS.

I HAVE A DARING *PLAN*...

"LIKE *LEMMINGS*, THE POPULACE FILED OUT OF THE CITY, INTENT NOT ON *EVACUATION*...

"... BUT *EXCAVATION!*

"TOGETHER, THEY *SCOURED* THE *COUNTRYSIDE*, IN SEARCH OF THAT RAREST OF *ALL* COMMODITES...

"... *CHAOS EMERALDS!*

"AS THEY WORKED, THE *THREAT* LOOMED LARGE OVER THE HEAD OF *EACH* AND *EVERY* ECHIDNA...

"...BOTH THE *TALL*...

"... AND THE *SMALL!*

"TIME GREW *SHORT*, AND THE EMERALDS--A *DOZEN* STRONG-- WERE DELIVERED BY *CONVOY*...

"...THEN PLACED WITHIN THE *CAVERNS* BELOW!

IF I'M RIGHT, THE *ENERGY* FROM THE *CHAOS EMERALDS* SHOULD *RESONATE* THROUGHOUT THE CITY'S *INFRASTRUCTURE*-- *SEVERING* THE *GRAVIMETRIC LINES* OF *FORCE!*

OR... TO PUT IT *ANOTHER* WAY...

RRRRRRRRRRUUUUUMMMBBBLLLLLL

...WE'RE MOVIN' ON UP!

THROOOOOM!

WHEW

THAT WAS ALMOST *THE END!*

BUT THANKS TO *YOU*, M'LOVE-- IT *WASN'T!*

OUR WORLD IS *SAFE*-- FOR THE *NEXT* GENERATION!

FUNNY...

EVEN THOUGH WE'RE TAKING IT *WITH* US...

...I FEEL AS THOUGH WE'RE *LEAVING HOME!*

AND THEY *WERE.*

FOR, HAVING SEVERED ALL TIES TO *GRAVITY...*

...THE ISLAND WOULD FLOAT, *ALONE* AND *APART...*

...FOREVER.

IT WAS A *GRAND DAY* IN *ECHIONA HISTORY!*

LITTLE DID WE DREAM THAT OUR *SALVATION...*

...WOULD ONE DAY GIVE BIRTH TO *MOUNT FATE...*

...AND THE GREATEST *MENACE* OF ALL!